

New Hope News

Volume 5, Issue 22

June 7, 2009

Vacation Bible School News!

This year's Vacation Bible School, Camp E.D.G.E. (Experience and Discover God Everywhere), will be July 6 – 10 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We will again offer Supper beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by an Opening, two Rotations per evening and a brief Closing. The Rotations will include Crafts, Music, Drama, Computers, Discover and Reflection Time, Mission and Games. Volunteers will be needed for Rotations, as well as Shepherds, Cooks, and Clean-up Crew. Volunteer Training/Orientations are scheduled for June 24 at 1 p.m. OR June 25 at 7 p.m.

Please look for the VBS Volunteer Sign-up Form in the bulletin or contact the church office for more information! REGISTRATION FORMS for this year's VBS will be available in the Narthex. Please look for the special VBS display!

For more information about VBS, please contact Barbi Smith, Jennifer James or Deb Garten.

Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays,
Now through July
26

Christian Education
9:00 AM

Worship

10:00 AM

*Sacrament of the
Lord's Supper*
June 7 & July 5



Celebration of Life



On Sunday, June 14th at 1:00 p.m., there will be a "Celebration of Cathy Skinn's Life" at New Hope with the Rev. Dr. Rick Miller leading the celebration. In keeping with this special remembrance of Cathy, ice cream with chocolate syrup (Cathy's favorite) will be served! Please plan now to attend the celebration of one of God's special servants!

Farewell to Cathy Holder

Please join me in thanking Cathy Holder for over nine years of service to New Hope! Cathy is retiring as our Administrative Assistant, effective June 14, 2009, so that she might pursue other interests. She leaves as New Hope's second longest-tenured staff member (just behind Mike Greene). Cathy came to her position in late 1999, at a time when our congregation was between pastors and in great need. She has served this congregation faithfully in those years. I have always been grateful for having Cathy as the "first-impression" newcomers have of New Hope. Her warmth and presence is contagious when people call or come into the office and she has provided much pastoral care for this congregation from her position at her desk. She will be missed! Please join me in thanking Cathy for her time with us and look for details to come as to how we might be celebrating her ministry amongst us.

In light of this news, our Personnel Committee will be looking at our office structure to determine how the needs of our growing staff and ministries might be best served by office and support staff. In the meantime, we will be looking for people who can give a half-day or whole day a week to answering the phone, making copies, etc. If this is something you would be willing to do, please contact Grace Harmon at 946-5099. *-Chris James*

Deacon's Corner

The Deacons are providing an emergency contact form which will be kept at the church. These are completely voluntary and will only be used in a true emergency. You may pick up a form in the Church Office at your convenience.

Safe Sanctuary

Why do we do Safe Sanctuary? Several years ago, about the time the program was adopted by New Hope Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy encouraged ALL churches to institute the program or one like it. Screening and training volunteers and implementing policies and procedures is one of the ways that we work toward providing a safe environment for children and youth, but that is not all that the program does. The Safe Sanctuary Program also protects our church AND our volunteers, *by making the church less desirable to would-be predators, and to those who would falsely accuse volunteers of misconduct for monetary gain (yes, this happens...)*. History and experience has shown that churches with the Safe Sanctuary Program are **generally** avoided by those who come with less than honorable intentions.

Elaine Barbee and Misty Hause do an outstanding screening and training volunteers and helping us to implement the program. Twenty-four volunteers have been trained (or re-trained) so far this year. An additional class is scheduled for **June 7, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.** In order to expedite the class, the Volunteer Application, the Authorization to Release Information and the Covenant Statement are available on the Welcome Table for you to complete before the class.

If you would like to attend this class to become Safe Sanctuary Certified, or if you have questions, please contact Barbi Smith at 636 936-2200.

On Friday, May 22, our preschool began the process of moving in. A truckload of tables, chairs and other furniture was just the beginning of the process. Over the next couple of weeks, the preschool teachers will continue to bring boxes of supplies, materials and curriculum that will be used during the coming years. It will take

You have certainly heard the news that we will be embarking on a capital campaign this fall to help us address our current debt and allow us to expand our growing ministries with new facilities. This is a major endeavor to plan and implement and, though the capital campaign will not begin on a congregational level until the early fall, it has already begun in earnest as we have called an Executive Committee, Steering Committee and various teams to put all of the pieces of the campaign into place.

You know that we have had a Building Committee in place for a year now, talking with the staff and various ministries and committees of the church to determine our needs and begin to plan for our continued growth. Initial drawings have been developed to get the ball rolling and communicate the results of those preliminary discussions. We will continue to refine these plans.

As a part of helping us to prepare and plan the capital campaign, we have compiled six years' worth of data (financial; worship attendance; Christian education attendance; current facility

square footage, usage and capacities; buildable acres and available parking; staffing; and plans for expansion) that is currently being analyzed, the final report of which will help us determine whether our building and expansion plans are the right plans at the right time. The point of this data analysis is to help us build the right thing at the right time, leveraging our dollars for ministry in the most effective and efficient way possible. In other words, this report will help us avoid building too small or too big and allow us to be the best stewards of our resources that we can be. Once we have this report and the information it provides, we will be in a better position to plan further how we can best direct the funds we receive from the campaign. We will certainly keep you up to date as all of this develops, but I am excited about all of the people who have come together to be a part of this process in helping New Hope to move forward together into the next phase of our life together.

Faithfully,

Chris

From the Pastor...

Christian Education Committee

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE is looking for new members! We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Barbi Smith (Director of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation) or Sally Terrell (Elder/Committee Chair).

Employment Opportunity

New Hope has a position open for an additional Child Care Provider. This position is scheduled to work on Sunday mornings and at others times child care will be needed. If you know of someone who is reliable, works well with children, and may be interested in this position, please speak with Grace Harmon, Personnel Committee chairperson, at (636) 946-5099. Interested persons may also contact the church office at 936-2200.

Preschool News- Settling In!!!

us all awhile to "settle in" and figure out just how we are going to conduct a top notch preschool and maintain quality Christian Education. Please bear with us!!!! This is a very exciting time in the life of our church as we welcome this wonderful opportunity to minister to the community and the youngest of those

among us. THANK YOU to everyone for your patience and understanding while we assimilate this new program into the life of our church!!! Please watch the newsletter for more information or contact Barbi Smith, Director of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation at (636) 936-2200 .

Thank You from Curiosity Corner

I would like to take a moment to say thank you for sacrificing your normal operation of your Sunday school classrooms. I truly feel it is God's will as to how all of this has unfolded. As you know it was announced in September 2007 that the property located at 4116 McClay Road, where Curiosity Corner Preschool is housed, was in the process of being sold to Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service, a non-for profit organization that provides a multitude of services to underprivileged people in the community. With that announcement the day programs that operated at that location would be nonexistence in the spring of 2009. WOW, what a load of information to absorb. So perseverance set in and with a team of moms I started looking for a new home for the Curiosity Corner Preschool Program that has been in existence since 1981 providing quality early childhood education to 3, 4 and 5 year old children in the community. You know the rest of the story and I just want you to know how truly grateful we are to all of the members of New Hope Presbyterian Church. With the sacrifice that Curiosity Corner has had

to make by leaving the property that will now be occupied by the Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service and the sacrifices that the Sunday school teachers will have to make by sharing space with the preschool teachers of New Hope Presbyterian Preschool I feel we are all in an amazing "pay it forward" situation. With open minds and open communication I feel together we can do amazing things. Please accept my (our) deepest expression of gratitude I can give as we venture into our "New Beginning". The staff of New Hope Preschool already feels so welcomed and can't wait to meet all of the Sunday school teachers. It is amazing the sense of "family" you feel the minute you enter through the front doors of New Hope Presbyterian Church.

In Christ's Love,
Rhonda Gaines

Evangelism Tip of the Month:

"Evangelism is joyfully sharing the good news of the sovereign love of God and calling all people to repentance, to personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to active membership in the church, and to obedient service in the world"

Source: <http://www.pcusa.org/evangelism/international/>

Welcome to New Hope's Newest Member

United with New Hope in Membership, May 31, 2009

Bob & Kathy Mudrovic

1308 Edinburgh

St. Charles, MO 63303

949-9040

June Meal-a-Month

June has arrived and the challenge for kids is to avoid boredom. The challenge for parents is to feed their children balanced meals on a minimal budget. As God has provided for your needs, please help others in need. The meal this month is:

2 cans of chicken
1 box chicken helper
1 can each vegetables & fruit
1 box flavored pops (that can be frozen)

360 Connection

The 360 Connection, an organization dedicated to visiting the homeless in the St. Louis area, is led by Catie Daugherty, the neighbor of Christie Tutschulte, and has been doing this for over 20 years. They are in desperate need of supplies as the donations are always lower in the summer than when it's 5 degrees outside. Below is a list of the highest need items, but is certainly not all-inclusive. If you would like to donate, please bring your items to the church office, marked 360, or contact Christie Tutschulte to arrange for pick-up.

The items needed are: Men's and women's jeans, tennis shoes, bug spray, candles, matches, lighters, summer t-shirts / men's and women's, jackets, socks, razors/shaving cream, feminine products, baby wipes, blankets, hand sanitizer, chap stick, tents, board games, art supplies- many have great talents but little to no supplies, flashlights, AA,AAA and D batteries, old battery operated radios w/ batteries preferably, old lawn cushions, T paper, bottled/ or jug water, kerosene, lanterns, old pots and pans.

Prayer Chain News

The Prayer Chain, a vital ministry of New Hope, is in need of a new coordinator. Although guidelines are in place to make the process run smoothly and efficiently, a person with a little time and the heart for those in need is requested. If you are interested in pursuing this ministry, please contact Pastor James.

Working from the Heart

Work is love made visible.

—Kahlil Gibran

Most of us do not consider our work a personal form of worship. Work is worldly. Worship is withdrawing from the world to honor God. But could there be a more beautiful way to honor our Great Creator than by contributing to the re-creation of the world through our gifts? This is what we're called to do each day through our work. Yet it is very difficult to get even a glimmer of the holy when we are harassed, unappreciated, overwhelmed, frazzled and burned out.

Marianne Williamson believes that the workplace is "but a front for a temple, a healing place where people can be lifted above the insanity of a frightened world." Once, when she was working as a cocktail waitress—years before she answered her calling to become a spiritual guide and writer—she realized that people only thought they were coming to a bar for a drink. Really the bar was a place she could minister to people with warmth, conversation and compassion. "No matter what we do, we can make it our ministry," she writes. "No matter what, we are here to minister to human hearts. If we talk to anyone, or see anyone, or even think of anyone, then we have the opportunity to bring more love into the universe. From a waitress to the head of a movie studio, from an elevator operator to the president of a nation, there is no one whose job is unimportant to God."

It's easier to imagine that our work could be our worship if we could perceive the sacred in how we spend at least eight hours of the day. Perhaps the secret to coming to this awareness, no matter what our present circumstances, is to discover the work we would love to do. But until we do, we need to learn to love the work we're presently doing. Today you can begin to transform your workplace and your working style by considering that, "when you work, you fulfill a part of earth's fondest dream assigned to you when you work from the heart."

Blood Drive 2009

New Hope, did you know that every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood? Or, that over 14 million blood transfusions are given each year? If you'd like to help with this dilemma you can do so without leaving the comfort of New Hope! Our annual blood drive will be held on Sunday, July 19th so mark your calendar. Whether you're a regular donor or a first timer we have a cot for you! Sign-up forms will be available closer to the actual drive. Donors are reminded that blood can only be donated once every eight

Graduation Open House

You are cordially invited to attend a graduation party honoring Casey Fancher on Saturday, June 13th at 3:00 pm. The Open House will be held at her home at 2099 Autumn Wood Drive, St. Charles 63303.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 7

9:00 Education Hour
10:00 Worship
11:30 Phillips' Faith Family

Tuesday, June 9

10:00 Staff Mtg.
6:30 N.A. Mtg.
7:00 A.A. Mtg.
7:15 Mission Comm. Mtg.

Thursday, June 11

12:00 Agape Circle

Saturday, June 13

9:45 Mid-Highs at Oasis
Food Pantry
12:00 Melone Party
4:30 Pairs & Singles
Tailgate Party & Rascals
Baseball Game

Sunday, June 14

9:00 Education Hour
10:00 Worship & Sr. High
Mission Trip Commissioning
1:00 Celebration of Cathy
Skinn's Life

Tuesday, June 16

10:00 Staff Mtg.
6:30 N.A. Mtg.
7:00 A.A. Mtg.

Thursday, June 18

7:00 Female Connection

Saturday, June 20

8:30 Men's Breakfast
4:00 James/Truett
Wedding

Nursery Schedule

Today: Libby Reidt **June 14:** Barbi Smith
June 21: Kelly Hantack

The nursery is in need of Cheerios for our little people also!

Usher Schedule

Sunday, June 14

Jim Phillips
Debbie Phillips
Michael Black
Mel Fairchild
Gary Freeman
Ben Tutschulte
Christie Tutschulte

Sunday, June 21

Rick Cassetta
Rick Etling
Tyler Etling
Ken Pinkley
Kevin Harms
Joe Seidler

Substitute List

Al Beamer
Kathy Beamer
Kathy Freeman
Gary Freeman
Bunny Gauthier
Don Moore
Allen Sebaugh
Ann Sebaugh
Sue Stiegemeier
Gil Stuenkel
Sue White
Jim White